

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 SS-15 L-01 INR-05 SSO-00 INRE-00

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S E C R E T GENEVA 7178

STADIS/LIMDIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR TU UN

SUBJ: NARCOTICS-TURKISH DEVELOPMENTS

REF: GENEVA 7048

1. CONVERSATIONS WITH VARIOUS KNOWLEDGEABLE OFFICIALS OVER LAST FEW DAYS REVEAL FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING TURKEY.

2. ABASSADOR KIRCA MET WITH DND DIRECTOR MARTENS, APPARENTLY AT LATTER'S REQUEST, ON NOV 22. DURING THEIR TALK MARTENS EXPRESSED DEEP CONCERN AND DISMAY THAT ON BASIS OF INFO PROVIDED BY TUKEY TO DATE NOTHING SUBSTANTIAL APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN DONE TO IMPLEMENT GOT'S DECISION OF SEPT 12. MARTENS STATED HE CONSIDERS IT OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT GREENFIELD'S RECOMMENDATIONS BE FOLLOWED UP EFFICIENTLY

AND PROMPTLY. MARTENS NOTED FURTHER THAT HE PUBLICLY WELCOMED GOT'S DECISION IN GOOD FAITH AND IS DEEPLY WORRIED THAT TURKEY'S FAILURE TO TAKE ADEQUATE AND PROMPT IMPLEMENTING ACTION BY TIME COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS MEETS IN MID-FEBRUARY WILL RESULT NOT ONLY IN SEVERE INTERNATIONAL CRITICISM OF TURKEY BUT ALSO IN EMBARRASSMENT TO UN AND HIM PERSONALLY FOR HAVING APPLAUDED SEPT 12 ACTION.

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3. IN SAME CONVERSATION WITH KIRCA, MARTENS ALSO BROUGHT UP SUCH MATTERS

AS: (A) IMPORTANCE OF HAVING HIGH-LEVEL PERSON IN TURKISH ADMINISTRATION

IN CHARGE OF COORDINATING OVERALL EFFORT AND TO MAINTAIN LIAISON WITH UN AND OTHER

INTERESTED PARTIES; (B) NEED FOR TIMELY ORGANIZATION OF EFFICIENT AND SAFE TRANSPORT OF POPPY CAPSULES AFTER HARVEST; (C) NEED FOR GOVT MONOPOLY TO HANDLE WHOLE TRADE OF CROP; (D) URGENCY OF HAVING

DECISION OF SEPT 12 PUBLISHED IN GOVT GAZETTE; (E) NECESSITY TAKE MEASURES

SO THAT EXISTING LEGISLATION COVERS HANDING OF UNINCISED POPPY. MARTENS

ON HIS SIDE GAVE ASSURENCES THAT HE WOULD BE PREPARED APPOINT WITHOUT

DELAY: (A) AN OVER-ALL UN COORDINATOR: (B) AN EXPERT TO LEAD STUDY RELATED ESTABLISHMENT ALKALOIDS FACTORY; (C) AN AGRO-ECEONOMIC EXPERT;

(D) A LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPERT.

4. FURTHERMORE MARTENS TOLD KIRCA HE HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT TMO OFFICIALS

HAVE EXPRESSED INTENTION PROCEED WITH ALKALOIDS FACTORY ON BASIS WHICH

WOULD MAKE FEASIBILITY STUDY MEANINGLESS. SPECIFICALLY DND HAS RECEIVED

INFORMATION THAT TMO INTENDS ISSUE TENDERS, REVIEW BIDS RECEIVED FROM FOREIGN FIRMS, SELECT MOST FAVORABLE OFFER AND ONLY THEN INVITE UN EXPERTS ASSIST. MARTENS EXPRESSED FIRM VIEW, AND KIRCA AGREED, THAT THIS IS TOPSY-TURVY APPROACH WHICH WILL RESULT IN CONFUSION AND DELAY, THAT CORRECT PROCEDURE WOULD BE FOR TURKEY FIRST TO DECIDE BASIC

SPECIFICATIONS FOR FACTORY FOR COMMUNICATION TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS AND THEN INVITE TENDERS. MARTENS AND KIRCA REPORTEDLY ALSO AGREED THAT TURKEY URGENTLY NEEDS EXPERT OR EVEN TEAM OF EXPERTS TO ASSIST IN ELABORATION OF TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS.

5. KIRCA HAS REPORTEDLY SENT CABLE TO FOREIGN MINISTER ESENBEL MAKING FULL REPORT ON STRONG DEMARCHE MADE TO HIM BY DND DIRECTOR MARTENS AND URGING SPEEDY AND FULL COOPERATION WITH UN REGARDING SECRET

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ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND WHOLE RANGE OF MATTERS INVOLVED IN IMPLEMENTATION SEPT 12 DECISION.

6. MARTENS HAS SENT LETTER TO GREENFIELD REPORTING ON HIS TALK WITH KIRCA, STATING HE WOULD MUCH APPRECIATE GREENFIELD'S AGREEING TO SERVE AS PERSON ON UN SIDE TO MAINTAIN OVERALL LIAISON WITH TURKEY AND ASKING GREENFIELD TO STAND BY.

7. IN LUNCHEON CONVERSATION NOV 25 KIRCA AND MISOFF DISCUSSED NEED ACCELERATE IMPLEMENTATION TURKEY'S DECISION OF SEPT 12. IN RESPONSE QUERY AS TO WHAT HE THOUGH MIGHT BE DONE TO PROMOTE ACTION ASAP, KIRCA REPLIED TO FOLLOWING EFFECT. MAINTENANCE OF CLOSE AND FULL COOPERATION WITH U.S. IS ENVISAGED BY NEW TURKISH GOVT. THEREFORE HE BELIEVES THAT FOLLOWING PARLIAMENT'S VOTE ON CONFIDENCE ISSUE ON NOV 29, OR DEC 2, DEMARCHE BY AMBASSADOR MACOMBER TO FOREIGN MINISTER ESENBEL, WHO WELL AWARE NARCOTICS MATTERS, COULD "ONLY BE GOOD".

8. KIRCA SLSO COMMENTED THAT HE REGARDS ACTION IN NEAR FUTURE ON ALKALOID FACTORY'S CONSTRUCTIONAS IMPORTANT IN TERMS OF SECURING GOT WILL AGREE RECEIVE UN EXPERTS QUICKLY TO ASSIST IN ELABORATING FACTORY'S SPECIFICATIONS. SAID HE ALSO ATTACHES PRIORITY IMPORTANCE TO

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ISSUING DECREE AMENDING COUNCIL'S DECREE OF JULY 1

TO SPECIFY THAT POPPY CULTIVATION BEING RESUMED FOR EXCLUSIVE PURPOSE OF PRODUCING UNLANCED STRAW. SAID FURTHER HE CONSIDERS LEGAL PROBLEM RELATING UNLANCED STRAW EXPORT SHOULD BE RESOLVED ASAP, ADDING HE BELIEVES THAT WHAT IS NEEDED IS LAW EMPOWERING, GOVT TO ISSUE DECREE AMENDING LAW ON TMO, DECREE TO PROVIDE THAT TMO HAS STRAW EXPORT MONOPOLY. KIRCA ALSO NOTED HIS BELIEF THAT IT MIGHT BE HELPFUL IF AMBASSADOR MACOMBER COULD INDICATE TO ESENBEL THAT USG ANTICIPATES TIMELY ACTION CAN BE TAKEN TO PERMIT U.S. MANUFACTURERS TO IMPORT CODEINE AND MORPHINE. KIRCA REFERRED IN ADDITION TO POSSIBILITY THAT HE WOULD MAKE EARLY TRIP TO ANKARA TO TALK ABOUT NARCOTICS MATTERS. ABRAMS

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